

New York, May 12, 1859.

My dear Wife:

213 Our anniversary meetings being terminated, I take a breathing spell, and sit down the first thing this morning to report progress. And first, as to our Monday's ride to this city. The day, you will recollect, was as sultry as in July or August — the mercury ranging as high in the shade as 88 or 90 deg., with a burning sun, a cloudless sky, and any quantity of dust to smother and annoy us, especially over that portion of our route which lies between Hartford and New York. Our anti-slavery company in the cars consisted of Francis Jackson, Phillips, Quincy, Remond, and Mrs. Severance and Mrs. Dall, with the two last of whom I rode all the way, and, of course, had a very agreeable social chit-chat ~~on matters~~ and things in general. On arriving here, I went immediately to bro. George's, where I had a warm greeting, and spent the night. Bro. G. has had some very severe attacks of neuralgia, but he is now better, though unable to predict what a day will bring forth in regard to that strange, mysterious, and intolerable disease. Sarah Benson has grown nearly as tall as Fanny, straight as an arrow, and looking fresh and handsome as a rose. Mary is quite tall, but is looking thin and cadaverous, as though she were going into a decline. George and Tommy are fine young men, and board with the family. The Washing and Bathing Institution has not been in operation, to any extent, for several months past, and it is

very doubtful what will be done with it, as it needs repairs to the extent of five or six hundred dollars. Of course, not being in operation, Catharine has had no connection with it all that time, and, consequently, has been cut off from the stipend she has usually received in that direction. How the family has contrived to live, I do not know; but, at times, they must be sorely pressed for means, I think. Catharine would like to get on a farm, if one could be obtained, but is ready to do any thing, and to go any where, that may hold out the prospect of a comfortable subsistence. Bro. G. did intend to make another visit to Kansas, but, for the present, at least, will remain at home. He says that Henry Egbert writes from Lawrence that he has abandoned the idea of going to Pike's Peak, and thinks George Thompson has concluded not to go. Perhaps you have had a letter from the latter since I left home. If so, I hope he sends relief to all our minds by confirming what Henry writes.

Next, as to the weather we have had. You know that I predicted we should ^{not} escape without a cold, dreary, North-easterly rain-storm; for I do not remember an exception to this, for twenty-five years, during anniversary week; yet on Monday evening, hot, sweltering as it was, as genuine dog-day, nothing seemed more unlikely to happen. But on rising the next morning, presto! and what a change! "As cold as Greenland" - every body shivering and shaking - a dismal storm, which has continued without abatement to this hour. Rain, rain, rain, and mud and nastiness ad nauseam, and in any quantity. It was lucky indeed that

you insisted on my bringing along with me my great-coat, for I have had to wear it continually, and hardly been comfortable at that. My rubber over-shoes have also been needed as much as at any time of the year. Every thing has been extremely dreary.

Next, as to our anniversary. The weather, of course, has been against us, from beginning to end, and our great and magnificent hall altogether more spacious than we needed. Still, the attendance throughout was respectable in character and numbers, and, on the whole, more numerous than ever before. The meetings were all interesting and high-toned, and the speaking generally very good. I made no speech, but, as presiding officer, had occasion to make a few incidental remarks, now and then. Among other speakers were two Unitarian ministers, Rev. Mr. Longfellow and Rev. Mr. Noyes. Lucretia Mott was not able to be with us till the second day. Last evening's meeting, in spite of the dismal storm, was a very large one, Dr. Cheever being among the auditors. Phillips made a great effort, as he did at our first meeting, and every thing ended in the best manner. This afternoon and evening, the women are to have their Conventions.

Next, as to my health. I have got along far better than I had any right to suppose I could, and think the journey will prove advantageous, judging by my present feelings. So, you need not feel any uneasiness on my account. I still intend going to Eagleswood on Saturday, remaining over Sunday, and getting to Boston Monday, in the midnight train.

I have had a warm welcome at John
Hopper's, kissed the baby, and had a good time generally.

Even so many inquiries are made after you
and the children.

Hoping to hear from you before my return,
and sending a father's love to the children, I remain,

Ever your devoted husband

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

N.B. What has been the conclusion in regard
to Mary Ann? I hope she is better than when I left.

U.S. Nov. 1845